| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 09/645,645 | 08/24/2000 | Brian R. Woods | 17887-004900US | 3346 |

20350    7590    04/09/2003

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| EXAMINER |
|---|
| BARQADLE, YASIN M |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2153 | |

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.     2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2</u> .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: .

## DETAILED ACTION

1.    Claims 1-21 are presented for examination.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs

of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under

this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
>
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for
> patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof
> by the applicant for patent, or on an international applicat   ion by another
> who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of
> section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant
> for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American

Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual

Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do

not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly

or indirectly from an international application filed before

November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference

is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by

the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2.    Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Cotton US(6330590).

3.    As per claim 1, Cotton teaches a method for automatically

processing electronic mail, comprising:

loading an electronic mail message [Col. 2, lines 18-27];

removing non-textual information from the electronic mail

message [note: eliminating personalization and addressing portion

Col. 2, lines 18-27];

locating a first portion from the electronic mail message

[Col. 3, lines 46-67 and Col. 4, lines 1-12];

generating a first code smaller than the first portion and

indicative of the first portion [Col. 3, lines 46-67 and Col. 4,

lines 1-12];

locating a second portion from the electronic mail message

[each successive message is identified with individual message

signature Col. 3, lines 46-67 and Col. 4, lines 1-12];

generating a second code smaller than the second portion and

indicative of the second portion [the signature is coded in

abbreviated format Col. 3, lines 46-67 and Col. 4, lines 1-12]; and

storing the first code and the second code [abstract and

Col. 2, lines 39-47].


4.    As per claim 2, Cotton teaches the method for automatically

processing electronic mail of claim 1, wherein the storing the

first code and the second code comprises storing the first code

and second code to semiconductor memory [Col. 2, lines 39-47].

5.   As per claim 3, Cotton teaches method for automatically processing electronic mail of claim 1, wherein the locating the first portion uses a different algorithm than the locating a second portion [Col. 5, lines 3-24].

6.   As per claim 4, Cotton teaches method for automatically processing electronic mail of claim 1, further comprising:

locating a second through nth portions [Col. 3, lines 47-58]; and

interrupting the locating the second through nth portions when a total number of portions reaches a predetermined count [Col. 3, lines 47-58].

7.   As per claim 5, Cotton teaches method for automatically processing electronic mail of claim 1, wherein the non-textual information includes at last one of header information, a Subject line, an Internet protocol (IP) address, routing information, hypertext markup language information, and an embedded applet [Col. 3, lines 47-67].

8.   As per claim 6, Cotton teaches method for automatically processing electronic mail of claim 1, further comprising removing everything from the electronic mail message except a message body [Col. 3, lines 59-67].

9.   As per claim 7, Cotton teaches method for automatically processing electronic mail of claim 1, further comprising arranging the first code and the second code according to numerical value [Col. 3, lines 47-67 and Col. 4, lines 1-30].

10.   As per claim 8 and 15, Cotton teaches method for automatically processing electronic mail, comprising:

loading an electronic mail message [Col. 2, lines 18-27];

selecting a plurality of portions from the electronic mail message interrupting the selecting the plurality of portions when the plurality of portions reaches a predetermined count [Col. 3, lines 47-67];

generating a plurality of codes from the plurality of portions, wherein the number of codes and the number of portions are equal to each other [Col. 3, lines 47-67 and Col. 4, lines 1-30; and

storing the plurality of codes [abstract and Col.2, lines 39-47].

11.   As per claims 9 and 16, Cotton teaches the method for automatically processing electronic mail further comprising removing non-textual information from the electronic mail message [Col. 3, lines 59-67].

12.   As per claims 10 and 17, Cotton teaches the method for automatically processing electronic mail, wherein the non-textual

information includes at least one of header information, a

subject line, an internet protocol (IP) address, routing

information, hyper-text markup language information, and all

embedded applet [Col. 3, lines 47-67].


13.   As per claims 11 and 18, Cotton teaches the method for

automatically processing electronic mail further comprising

interrupting the selecting the third number of portions from the

electronic mail message if the third number reaches a

predetermined count [Col. 3, lines 47-58].


14.   As per claims 12 and 19, Cotton teaches the method for

automatically processing electronic mail further comprising

arranging the fourth number of codes according to a numerical

value [Col. 3, lines 47-67 and Col. 4, lines 1-30].


15.   As per claims 13 and 20, Cotton teaches the method for

automatically processing electronic mail wherein each code is

smaller its respective portion [Col. 3, lines 59-67 and Col. 4,

lines 1-12].


16.   As per claims 14 and 21, Cotton teaches the method for

automatically processing electronic mail wherein generating the

plurality of codes includes processing the plurality of portions

with an algorithm selected from the group consisting of a

checksum, a cyclic redundancy check, and a hash [Col. 2, lines 28-38].

## *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin M Barqadle whose telephone number is 703-305-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 703-305-9717. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-304-3900.

Yasin Barqadle

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